

## THE MONTGOMERY TRIBUNE

D. W. MAJOR, Editor.  
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### THE LILIES AND THE ROSES.

She stood among the roses, the roses,  
And the birds were singing soft.  
The sun was on the tree,  
As the skies were blue.  
Her cheeks were all aglow,  
She laughed, and her laughter rippled  
Like the brook across the way—  
And Elsie was there with his arrow,  
And so was I that day.  
  
She lies among the lilies, the lilies,  
And the winds are sighing soft.  
She still she smiles,  
As in former whiles,  
Though her cheeks are driven snow.  
She sleeps. For the great Death-angel  
Has blessed her, and wove her away—  
And ah, but the world is weak!  
Weary and dreary to-day.  
  
O mystery of roses and roses;  
Ye both are breath that's breath!  
Speak to my soul  
Of the final goal.  
Where Love shall vanquish Death,  
I shall bear. For my spirit is thirsting  
For the life that is real and true.  
Where some day with her I may sleep them,  
The roses—and blues, too!

—Virginia Letitia Weston, in Boston Budget.

### LIKE AND UNLIKE.

"Oh, Clara," cried Belle Pritchard, running into the sunny morning-room where her sister was diligently practicing on the piano, "I've just heard such a piece of news! I've been over to see Nellie Armstrong, and they're going to have company—two girls from the city."

"When are they coming?" inquired Clara, excitedly.

"One of them is coming to-day," answered Belle. "They both can't leave home at the same time, for their mother is an invalid. What makes it so interesting is that they are twins, and so much alike that at first no one can tell them apart. Nellie never met them, but she saw them once at a concert. They sat just in front of her, and she says they are so pretty! It is Ada who is coming to-day, and she will stay two weeks, and then Elsie will come. Won't it be nice? Nellie says she will expect us to help her entertain them, for she wants them to have a real good time."

"We'll be glad enough to help," said Clara. "I've been longing all summer for a little fun. We'll go over this evening and call. How old is Ada?"

"Sixteen; just your age. Nellie sent for a new croquet set to-day, and a handsome rackets. So we can have all the croquet and lawn tennis we want."

The girls could scarcely settle themselves to anything all day, and were very impatient for evening to come. They led such quiet lives that it seemed a very important and exciting event to meet a stranger.

They started for Nellie's as soon as supper was over, and Clara carried a large bouquet of scarlet geraniums as an offering to her friend's guest.

It was only a short distance to the handsome stone house in which the Armstrongs lived, but Clara and Belle walked so fast that they were tired and worn by the time they reached it.

And they felt painfully conscious of their flushed faces and dusty shoes when Ada Howard rose from the bamboo chair in which she was reclining and, looking delightfully cool in her white linen dress and blue ribbons, came forward to meet them.

But it was not the contrast she afforded to themselves, nor anything she said, that made the girls feel shabby and plain, but the way in which she looked them over.

"I felt like a tramp—actually like a tramp," Belle said to her sister, in confidence, that night. "I don't believe I'll put on my blue lawn again without a shoulder. Her eyes seemed to light on that darn on the sleeve the first thing, and I knew she noticed that a tuck had been let out in the skin. And when you and Nell went into the house for a glass of water, she took occasion to ask me if I had trimmed my hat myself, and to say that the trimming nowadays was always put on the front, and that it was dreadfully old-fashioned to have it on the back. She said she thought I'd like to know, for of course we couldn't be expected to learn the latest fashions in such a place as this."

"She is a little odd," Clara admitted, reluctantly. "She said she wondered how I had kept that white canvas belt so clean, for it must be five years at least since they were worn. I felt ashamed of myself for minding such a petty thrust, but I did feel it. However, she is Nellie's guest, and we must make the best of her."

"Yes, I suppose so," sighed Belle, "but I don't believe I shall ever like her. She is an awful disappointment."

Making the best of the stranger proved very trying work indeed.

Nellie came over the next morning with Ada to call, and the latter asked

Clara to play something on the piano. Clara, conscious that she played well, for she was devoted to music, and had been well taught, chose a little serenade of Schubert's, with which she was very familiar.

When she had finished it, she turned around on the piano stool, expecting some word of pleasure and approval.

But none came. Ada sat quietly in a rocking-chair, her eyes fixed meditatively on the floor, her fingers toyed with the handle of her parasol.

At length, when the silence was becoming oppressive, she looked up, and a faint sigh escaped her lips.

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